

Artis—Naples

Home of The Baker Museum
and the Naples Philharmonic

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ARTIS—NAPLES ANNOUNCES SPRING EXHIBITIONS CELEBRATING THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY SEASON OF THE BAKER MUSEUM

***Blurring Boundaries: The Women of
American Abstract Artists, 1936-Present***
March 28-July 25, 2021

Making a Mark: American Women Artists
March 28-July 25, 2021

Marcus Jansen: Two Decades of Relevance
April 24-July 25, 2021

NAPLES, FL (February 11, 2021) – Artis—Naples announced today three exhibitions that will continue the celebration of the 20th anniversary season of The Baker Museum. *Blurring Boundaries: The Women of American Abstract Artists, 1936-Present* and a companion show, *Making a Mark: American Women Artists* open on March 28, while *Marcus Jansen: Two Decades of Relevance* opens on April 24. All three exhibitions will be on view at The Baker Museum through July 25.

Kathleen van Bergen, CEO and President, said “We are thrilled to have already welcomed over 8,000 visitors to The Baker Museum this season, and we look forward to safely welcoming more guests this Spring to experience the new exhibitions, as well as the beauty of our museum and Norris Garden. These exhibitions – including Marcus Jansen’s first solo show in Southwest Florida – demonstrate our continued commitment to safely providing enriching and engaging cultural experiences for our community.”

Courtney McNeil, Museum Director and Chief Curator, The Baker Museum, added “These visually rich exhibitions offer visitors the opportunity to experience vibrant works of art created from the 1920s to the present day that highlight the expressive potential of abstraction and figuration. From women artists of the early 20th century to the present, and to contemporary artist Marcus Jansen, the artists featured at The Baker Museum this spring utilize color, gesture and form to convey meaning to the viewer.”

Blurring Boundaries: The Women of American Abstract Artists, 1936-Present

More than eighty years after it was created in order to advocate for abstract art and the inclusion of all abstract artists in museums and galleries, American Abstract Artists (AAA) continues to nurture and support a vibrant community of artists with diverse identities and wide-ranging approaches to abstraction. In celebration of this tradition, *Blurring Boundaries: The Women of American Abstract Artists, 1936 – Present* traces the extraordinary contributions of the female artists within AAA, from the founders to today’s practicing

members. The exhibition is an awe-inspiring celebration of this intergenerational group of artists, highlighting the indelible ways in which the women of AAA have shifted and shaped the frontiers of American abstraction.

Included are works by historic members Perle Fine, Esphyr Slobodkina, Irene Rice Pereira, Alice Trumbull Mason and Gertrude Greene, as well as current members including Ce Roser, Irene Rousseau, Judith Murray, Alice Adams, Merrill Wagner and Katinka Mann.

Making a Mark: American Women Artists

This companion exhibition to *Blurring Boundaries* highlights the significant legacy and continuous contributions of women artists in the development of modern and contemporary art in America. The majority of the works on view are drawn from the museum's permanent collection, which comprises more than 4,000 works, and they are augmented by works on loan from Naples collectors. Some artists are represented in both *Blurring Boundaries* and *Making a Mark*.

Featured artists include Alice Adams, Naomi Boretz, Rosalind Bengelsdorf Browne, Elsie Driggs, Ruth Eckstein, Barbara Ess, Gabriele Evertz, Perle Fine, Helen Frankenthaler, Viola Frey, Helen Gilbert, Nancy Graves, Gertrude Greene, Nancy Grossman, Grace Hartigan, Martha Keller, Jane Marie Logemann, Katinka Mann, Nancy Manter, Dorie Marder, Alice Trumbull Mason, Joan Mitchell, Mary Obering, Georgia O'Keeffe, Betty Bierne Parsons, Christine Taylor Patten, Irene Rice-Pereira, Joanna Webster Price, Raquel Rabinovich, Beatrice Riese, Ce Roser, Irene Victoria Rousseau, Niki de Saint-Phalle, Miriam Schapiro, Esphyr Slobodkina, Thea Tewi, Helen Torr and Charmion Von Wiegand.

Abstraction is the critical visual language that these artists all share, although their styles differ greatly. Some employ nonfigurative abstraction while others straddle the boundary between representation and abstraction in a range of mediums including paintings, drawings, collages, prints, photography and sculpture. Selected works were created between the 1920s and 1990s. Many of them are either on view for the first time or have not been exhibited for nearly a decade.

Marcus Jansen: Two Decades of Relevance

For Marcus Jansen, an internationally exhibited artist based in Fort Myers and New York, painting is an act of intense engagement with the world. His art offers critical commentary on global sociological, political and economic issues and visceral responses to the world events that have shaped his life. Visitors are invited to discover Jansen's creative output, which has garnered numerous national and international accolades, in his first solo museum exhibition in Southwest Florida.

Jansen's works, which are charged with a sense of empathy and a commitment to justice, are simultaneously emotional, introspective, and intellectual.

Two Decades of Relevance showcases 18 powerful paintings by Jansen, including *Foreclosures* (2008), *Spotlight* (2020) and *The Colonialist* (2021). His expressive paintings, with their timeless, relevant themes and their colorful abstract and figural constructions, fully engage the viewer in critical topics about our world. These works demonstrate the artist's sustained preoccupations with power structures and their manifestations across different spheres, struggles of the disenfranchised and displaced, urban and rural landscapes, surveillance and technology.

In addition to his studio practice, Jansen is founder of the Marcus Jansen Foundation Fund in Fort Myers, which aims to serve veterans with PTSD and economically disadvantaged children through enhanced cultural awareness of art and music.

Blurring Boundaries: The Women of American Abstract Artists, 1936-Present, is organized by The Clara M. Eagle Gallery, Murray State University, Murray, KY and the Ewing Gallery, The University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN and is toured by International Arts & Artists, Washington, D.C. *Making a Mark: American Women Artists* is organized by Artis—Naples, The Baker Museum. *Marcus Jansen: Two Decades of Relevance*, is organized by Artis—Naples, The Baker Museum.

Related Events

Lecture: *Why Women Artists?*

April 2, 10am, Virtual Event

This spring at The Baker Museum, our new exhibitions *Blurring Boundaries: The Women of American Abstract Artists, 1936-Present* and *Making a Mark: American Women Artists* expand art historical narratives by celebrating the work of women artists from the early 20th century to the present. Join Director of Curatorial Affairs Rangsook Yoon, PhD., for this virtual presentation, which provides an overview of the two shows while also examining the importance of making a space for women-centric narratives in museums. Yoon further offers her insights into her favorite works in the exhibitions and shares unique perspectives from which works of divergent styles and media on display could be appreciated.

Q&A with Marcus Jansen

April 27, 10am, The Baker Museum Signature Event Space

On the occasion of his first solo museum exhibition in Southwest Florida, join artist Marcus Jansen for a Q&A session exploring topics including his early years as an artist, his sources of inspiration, and the trajectory of his work over the past two decades. Jansen will be in conversation with Courtney McNeil, Museum Director and Chief Curator, The Baker Museum.

Additional information on the exhibitions, related events, timed-entry tickets and details on our safety protocols including face masks, social distancing and forehead temperature scans is available at artisnaples.org.

ARTIS—NAPLES

Home of The Baker Museum and the Naples Philharmonic, Artis—Naples is unique among cultural institutions nationwide, equally dedicated to both the visual and performing arts featuring artists of global distinction.

KIMBERLY K. QUERREY and LOUIS A. SIMPSON CULTURAL CAMPUS

Led by CEO and President Kathleen van Bergen and Sharon and Timothy Ubben Music Director Andrey Boreyko, we typically offer audiences more than 800 paid and free events annually within a variety of venues and settings situated throughout the 8.5-acre Kimberly K. Querrey and Louis A. Simpson Cultural Campus. Artis—Naples welcomes thousands of visitors each year for a broad array of artistic and educational opportunities perfect for audiences of all backgrounds and interests. The Kimberly K. Querrey and Louis A. Simpson Cultural Campus is home to five buildings, including two performance halls (Frances Pew Hayes Hall and Myra J. Daniels Pavilion), The Baker Museum, the Toni Stabile Education Building and the Kohan Administration Building.

In the 2014-15 season, Andrey Boreyko assumed the title of Music Director and serves in this capacity for Artis—Naples. Boreyko is internationally recognized as one of the most exciting and dynamic conductors working today. This appointment, extended through 2022, marks his first American post.

The Wall Street Journal says van Bergen and Boreyko have ushered in “an impressive new phase” for classical music in Southwest Florida.

NAPLES PHILHARMONIC

The Naples Philharmonic has long been recognized as one of the cornerstones of Southwest Florida's arts community. As part of Artis—Naples, the Naples Philharmonic typically performs more than 140 orchestral and chamber music concerts, as well as opera and ballet, education, community and special event concerts annually between September and June in the 1,477-seat Hayes Hall, the 283-seat Daniels Pavilion and around the Southwest Florida region.

Jack Everly is Principal Pops Conductor and in the 2020-21 season celebrates 11 years in this role, bringing pops performances that celebrate music in its many forms. In 2017, Romanian conductor Radu Paponiu was named Assistant Conductor of the Naples Philharmonic and director of the Naples Philharmonic Youth Orchestra, and in 2019 was promoted to Associate Conductor.

THE BAKER MUSEUM

The Baker Museum is one of the foremost fine art museums in Southwest Florida. The museum hosts several traveling exhibitions annually to complement installations of works from its permanent collection. Comprising more than 4,000 objects, the museum's broad holdings of 20th and 21st century art reflect the generosity and commitment of area collectors. Of particular strength are The Baker Museum's collections of American and Mexican modern art and significant gifts from the personal collection of Olga Hirshhorn.

With almost two decades of collecting and exhibiting, the museum is dedicated to stewardship and scholarship from both its growing permanent collection and outside sources. At the same time, The Baker Museum seeks out the best traveling exhibitions from the leading arts institutions in the world—including recently the Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, Smithsonian Institutions and École des Beaux-Arts, Paris—to enrich the Southwest Florida community.

The Baker Museum exhibitions reopened to the public on December 1, 2019, after being closed for more than two years in the wake of Hurricane Irma. The repair of the museum was paired with a simultaneous expansion of the building to the south, which created new spaces for multidisciplinary exploration and social interaction.

EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY

In addition to creating and presenting visual and performing arts, Artis—Naples provides robust education and community activities for students of all ages. Typically, thousands of Collier County Public Schools interact with Artis—Naples education programming each year both on its cultural campus and in classrooms. The Lifelong Learning program provides engaging lectures and study opportunities for adults seeking to engage more deeply with the arts.

The Friends of Artis—Naples, with more than 4,000 households who give more than \$75, offers activities, travel experiences and events geared toward creating a deeper relationship between patrons and the arts.

In 2017, Artis—Naples acquired the Naples International Film Festival (NIFF), expanding its film offerings and providing a platform for the festival's continued excellence and growth. In 2018, NIFF celebrated its tenth year in the community, and in 2019, NIFF was named one of *MovieMaker* Magazine's Top 25 Coolest Film Festivals in the World.

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